

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of the Requirement for Restriction is respectfully requested. Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. The Examiner has stated that these claims are directed to two distinct inventions. These include:

Invention I (claims 1-27), drawn to an integrated circuit package, classified in class 257, subclass 730.

Invention II (claims 28-30), drawn to a method of forming a substrate for an integrated circuit package, classified in class 438, subclass 121. (See Office Action at page 2).

The Examiner has required restriction to one of these claim groups.

Applicants have elected to prosecute claims 1-27 related to Invention I. This election of claims is made with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims should not be restricted between Inventions I and II, and that claims of Inventions I and II should properly be included in a single patent application.

Independent claim 1 is representative of Group I. Claim 1 is directed to a substrate in an integrated circuit package and reads as follows:

1. A substrate in an integrated circuit (IC) package, comprising:
  - a first surface that has a central opening,
  - wherein said central opening has an edge,
  - wherein said edge includes at least one protruding edge portion that extends into said central opening.

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Independent claim 28 is representative of Group II. Claim 28 is directed to a method of forming a substrate for an integrated circuit package and reads as follows:

28. A method of forming a substrate for an integrated circuit (IC) package, comprising the steps of:

- (1) forming a central opening in a substrate, wherein the central opening has an edge; and
- (2) forming the edge to include at least one of:
  - (a) a protruding edge portion that extends into the central opening,
  - (b) a recessed edge portion, or
  - (c) a hole through the substrate proximate to the edge.

Thus, these two claims are directed essentially to the same inventive concept. The Office Action concedes that "Inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made" (see Office Action at page 2). Applicants assert that a thorough search for the apparatus and method claims will require search in the same art areas. It is respectfully submitted that examination of Inventions I and II together will not require additional searching or undue consideration by the Examiner. Thus, claims of Inventions I and II should be combined for examination in a single application.

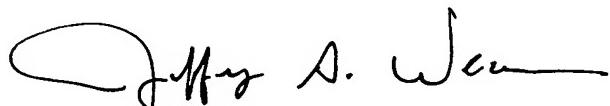
Prompt and favorable consideration of this Election is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this

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application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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